

## Calderon, Wanda

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**From:** Hughes, Michael J (HEALTH) <michael.hughes@health.ny.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 2:26 PM  
**To:** Staiger, Kimberly  
**Subject:** FW: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Topic: Toxic chemicals/CO2, Priority: High, Mode: Phone [ref:\_00DU0YCBU.\_500t0853NZ:ref]

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**From:** Asbury, Loretta S. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) [mailto:lob3@cdc.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 3:50 PM  
**To:** Navratil, Fay S (HEALTH) <fay.navratil@health.ny.gov>; McLanahan, Eva (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <yjp8@cdc.gov>; LeCoultrre, Trent D. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <tll7@cdc.gov>  
**Cc:** Escobar, Leah T. (EPA) (CDC epa.gov) <ESCOBAR.LEAH@EPA.GOV>; Hughes, Michael J (HEALTH) <michael.hughes@health.ny.gov>; Recer, Gregg M (HEALTH) <gregg.recer@health.ny.gov>; Leach, James F (HEALTH) <james.leach@health.ny.gov>; Anders, Krista M (HEALTH) <krista.anders@health.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Topic: Toxic chemicals/CO2, Priority: High, Mode: Phone [ref:\_00DU0YCBU.\_500t0853NZ:ref]

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Hi Fay,

The email has already been sent but will inform our ATSDR Information Center.

Loretta

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**From:** Navratil, Fay (CDC health.ny.gov)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 3:41 PM  
**To:** McLanahan, Eva (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <yjp8@cdc.gov>; Asbury, Loretta S. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <lob3@cdc.gov>; LeCoultrre, Trent D. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <tll7@cdc.gov>  
**Cc:** Escobar, Leah T. (EPA) (CDC epa.gov) <ESCOBAR.LEAH@EPA.GOV>; Hughes, Michael J (HEALTH) <michael.hughes@health.ny.gov>; Recer, Gregg M (HEALTH) <gregg.recer@health.ny.gov>; Leach, James F (HEALTH) <james.leach@health.ny.gov>; Anders, Krista (CDC health.ny.gov) <krista.anders@HEALTH.NY.GOV>  
**Subject:** RE: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Topic: Toxic chemicals/CO2, Priority: High, Mode: Phone [ref:\_00DU0YCBU.\_500t0853NZ:ref]

Hello Loretta -

If it is not too late, I would request that you direct Ms. Mackey to Mike Hughes at [michael.hughes@health.ny.gov](mailto:michael.hughes@health.ny.gov). Mike has been dealing with the air issues and schools on Long Island and may have already spoken with Ms. Mackey. Mikes can also be reached at 518-402-7800.

I will gladly assist Ms. Mackey in speaking with Mike if you have already sent a response.

Thanks!

*Fay S. Navratil*

Public Health Specialist  
New York State Dept. of Health  
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation  
Empire State Plaza, Corning Tower, Rm 1787  
Albany, NY 12237  
Phone: (518)402-7860  
Email: [fay.navratil@health.ny.gov](mailto:fay.navratil@health.ny.gov)

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**From:** McLanahan, Eva (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) [<mailto:yjp8@cdc.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:55 PM  
**To:** Asbury, Loretta S. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <[lob3@cdc.gov](mailto:lob3@cdc.gov)>; LeCoultré, Trent D. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <[tll7@cdc.gov](mailto:tll7@cdc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Escobar, Leah T. (EPA) (CDC epa.gov) <[ESCOBAR.LEAH@EPA.GOV](mailto:ESCOBAR.LEAH@EPA.GOV)>; Navratil, Fay S (HEALTH) <[fay.navratil@health.ny.gov](mailto:fay.navratil@health.ny.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Topic: Toxic chemicals/CO2, Priority: High, Mode: Phone  
[ref:\_00DU0YCBU.\_500t0853NZ:ref]

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Hi Loretta,

I would have her reach out to Fay Navratil at NYSDOH – she’s our project manager for the APPLETREE CoAg there.

Her email is [fay.navratil@health.ny.gov](mailto:fay.navratil@health.ny.gov).

Leah – have you been contacted about or are aware of this issue? If not, I can also bring this to Fay’s attention.

Thanks,  
Eva

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**From:** Asbury, Loretta S. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:48 PM  
**To:** McLanahan, Eva (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <[yjp8@cdc.gov](mailto:yjp8@cdc.gov)>; LeCoultré, Trent D. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <[tll7@cdc.gov](mailto:tll7@cdc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Asbury, Loretta S. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <[lob3@cdc.gov](mailto:lob3@cdc.gov)>; Escobar, Leah T. (EPA) (CDC epa.gov) <[ESCOBAR.LEAH@EPA.GOV](mailto:ESCOBAR.LEAH@EPA.GOV)>  
**Subject:** FW: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Topic: Toxic chemicals/CO2, Priority: High, Mode: Phone  
[ref:\_00DU0YCBU.\_500t0853NZ:ref]  
**Importance:** High

Hi Eva and Trent,

In pursuant to the email below from CDC-INFO, Dr. Michelle Watters has provided me with her feedback, see below.

I need to get back to our Center CDC-INFO Coordinator with a response. Who at the state (POC person) should we refer Ms. Mackey to?

Thanks,

Loretta Asbury

Draft email to CDC-INFO:

The Division of Community Health Investigations (DCHI) is in receipt of your email. For this inquiry, we recommend Ms. Mackey contact the NY State Health Department [\[add POC information\]](#) to obtain answers to her questions.

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**From:** Watters, Michelle (EPA) (CDC epa.gov)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 1:19 PM  
**To:** Asbury, Loretta S. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <[lob3@cdc.gov](mailto:lob3@cdc.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Topic: Toxic chemicals/CO2, Priority: High, Mode: Phone  
[ref:\_00DU0YCBU.\_500t0853NZ:ref]

Hi Loretta, I would refer to the state HD--especially since the person claims to have contacted EPA, state environmental and local HD. We would not go in and sample--even with our Els, we have previous information about the hazard.  
Michelle

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**From:** Asbury, Loretta S. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <[lob3@cdc.gov](mailto:lob3@cdc.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 11:51:26 AM  
**To:** Watters, Michelle  
**Subject:** FW: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Topic: Toxic chemicals/CO2, Priority: High, Mode: Phone  
[ref:\_00DU0YCBU.\_500t0853NZ:ref]

Hi Michelle,

We've received a CDC-INFO Inquiry from concerned individuals who want to know if CDC provide assistance in confirming the presence of toxic substances in school buildings and how best to remove them.

Should we answer this in DCHI or should this be referred to the state? If so, who do you recommend I send this information to.

Please also note:

Caller reports further that the EPA, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and local health department have all been notified of the situation, but they repeatedly defer testing to a long-time contractor who has advised that no intervention is necessary.

Thanks,

Loretta

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**From:** ATSDR Information Center  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 11:08 AM  
**To:** Asbury, Loretta S. (ATSDR/DCHI/OD) <[lob3@cdc.gov](mailto:lob3@cdc.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Topic: Toxic chemicals/CO2, Priority: High, Mode: Phone  
[ref:\_00DU0YCBU.\_500t0853NZ:ref]

Good morning Loretta,

This inquiry seems to be site related. Can you please advise.

Thanks,  
Carolyn

**From:** CDC-INFO Response (CDC)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 22, 2018 5:11 PM  
**To:** ATSDR Information Center <[ATSDRIC@cdc.gov](mailto:ATSDRIC@cdc.gov)>  
**Subject:** RESPONSE REQUIRED: Topic: Toxic chemicals/CO2, Priority: High, Mode: Phone  
[ref:\_00DU0YCBU.\_500t0853NZ:ref]

Please let us know as soon as possible if your group will provide the answer to the inquiry below or if the inquiry should be referred elsewhere, for example to a state or local health department, another CDC program, or other federal agency. Specific guidance on a referral and contact information would be appreciated.

This inquiry is being escalated for ATSDR assistance (1) in confirming the presence of toxic substances in a school building and (2) on how best to remove them. Please see the Case Description for full details.

Programs are asked to reply within 3 business days of receipt of this escalation. If there is a delay, please let us know when to expect the answer so we can share that information with the inquirer. A reminder will be sent in 8 days; the inquiry will be closed after 10 days.

Questions about this inquiry can be directed to the CDC-INFO Correspondence Team by replying to this e-mail. Please reference the inquiry number below and include the e-mail thread line in your response. The thread line is the e-mail chain including this e-mail and the original e-mail request. To include the thread line, reply to this message without deleting the historical e-mail chain.

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A.R.

The privacy of the inquirer should be protected in any transmission or storage of this e-mail.

----- Case Description -----  
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01/22/2018 02:45 PM

Tara Mackey

[taramackey16@gmail.com](mailto:taramackey16@gmail.com)

516-633-3795

Case Summary:

Caller is the mother of a child at Northport Middle School, which is located at 11 Middleville Road, Northport (Long Island), New York.

Per caller:

- 1) The school building is old and is attached to an old bus depot.
- 2) Two diesel tanks are buried in the vicinity of the building & depot.
- 3) Benzene, ethylbenzene, and toluene have been identified in the vicinity of the tanks, suggesting that they are leaking from the tanks into the air.
- 4) Students' levels of CO<sub>2</sub> are elevated, but the CO<sub>2</sub> detectors throughout the school are not being triggered, implying that CO<sub>2</sub> itself is not in the air within the building.
- 5) It is the caller's understanding that the benzene, ethylbenzene, and toluene believed to be leaking from the diesel tanks can be metabolized via the liver into CO<sub>2</sub>, which could explain the failure of the CO<sub>2</sub> detectors to be triggered.

Caller reports further that the EPA, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and local health department have all been notified of the situation, but they repeatedly defer testing to a long-time contractor who has advised that no intervention is necessary.

Question:

Can the CDC provide assistance (1) in confirming the presence of toxic substances in the school building and (2) on how best to remove them?

Thank you.